

Reverse Auto License Plate Configuration

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New Information

Beginning February 1, 2026, newly manufactured auto license plates will contain a “reverse” configuration. The reverse configuration will contain numbers in the first three positions, three letters in the fourth, fifth, and sixth positions, and a number in the seventh position. The reverse auto plate configuration Inventory Code will be ‘01T’ and the File Code will be ‘7.’

The chart below indicates the positioning for the current auto license plate and the reverse auto license plate:

Item Code	File Code	Inventory Description	Configuration/Character/Position (N=Numeric, A=Alpha)						
			1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th
01R	A	Refl Auto Plates	N	A	A	A	N	N	N
01T	7	Refl Auto Plates (Reversed)	N	N	N	A	A	A	N

The new series of plates with the reversed configuration sequences is 001AAA1 through 999ZZZ9.

Excluded are any Environmental License Plate (ELP)/Special Interest License Plate (SILP) configurations already established, as well as the letters I, O, or Q in the first or third alpha position of the configuration.

Background

The current auto configuration (NAAANNN) will soon be exhausted and replaced with a reverse auto configuration (NNNAAAN). New inventory and file codes have been established for the reverse configuration plate and programming is scheduled for release in December 2025.

Reference

VIN 2009-29 Reverse Commercial License Plate Configuration

Distribution

Notification of this memo (available at dmv.ca.gov by searching Vehicle Industry Services) was sent through the California DMV Automated Email Alert System December 2025 to:

- Dealers
- Registration Services